

032304

16310  
U.S. PTO

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PTO/SB/05 (08-00)

22386 U.S. PTO  
10/807091

032304

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>UTILITY<br/>PATENT APPLICATION<br/>TRANSMITTAL</b><br>(Only for new nonprovisional applications<br>under 37 CFR 1.53(b)) | Attorney Docket No.                                  | H055010.0035US1  |
|   | First Named Inventor<br>or<br>Application identifier | Darryl A. Bourgoyne  |
| ADDRESS TO:<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>Mail Stop Patent Application<br>PO Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450         | Title  | METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR RETURN OF<br>DRILLING FLUID FROM A SEALED MARINE<br>RISER TO A FLOATING DRILLING RIG WHILE<br>DRILLING |
|   | Express Mail No.                                     | EV330686594US  |

**APPLICATION ELEMENTS**

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 (submit in duplicate)
2. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages: 16]
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 USC 113) [Total Sheets: 11]
5. ☒ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages: 2]
  - a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
  - b. ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  
(for continuation/divisional with No. 19 completed)  
[Note No. 6 below]
    - i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the  
prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☒ Incorporation By Reference (useable if No. 5b is checked)  
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the  
oath or declaration is supplied under No. 5b, is considered as being part of  
the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated  
by reference therein.
7. ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if  
applicable, all necessary)
  - a. ☐ Computer Readable Copy (CRF)
  - b. ☐ Specification Sequence Listing on:
    - i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
    - ii. ☐ paper
  - c. ☐ Statement verifying identity of above copies
8. ☒ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

9. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or  
Computer Program (Appendix)

**ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

10. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
11. ☒ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee)
12. ☒ Power of Attorney
13. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
14. ☐ Information Disclosure  
Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449  
☐ Copies of IDS Citations
15. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
16. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (Itemized)
17. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  
(if foreign priority is claimed)
18. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

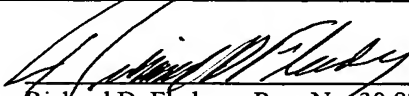
19. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate blank and supply the requisite information:

- ☒ Continuation  
☐ Divisional  
☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP)

of prior application No.: 09/911,295  
 Prior Application Information:  
 Examiner Hoang Dang Group Art Unit: 3672

|   |   |           |                |          |                |
|---|---|-----------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| <b>20. Correspondence Address</b>   |   |           |                |          |                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label _____ or _____ Correspondence address below<br>_____<br>(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here) |   |           |                |          |                |
| Name  | Attn: Richard D. Fladung<br>AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUSER & FELD LLP |           |                |          |                |
| Address   | 711 Louisiana Street, 1900 Pennzoil Place - South Tower         |           |                |          |                |
| City  | Houston   | State     | Texas          | Zip Code | 77002          |
| Country   | U.S.A.  | Telephone | (713) 220-5800 | Fax      | (713) 236-0822 |

Date:

March 23, 2004
  
 Richard D. Fladung, Reg. No. 30,834

032304

16370 U.S. PTO

PTO/SB/17 (01-03)

# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Patent fees are subject to annual revision

## Complete if Known

Application Number  
Filing Date March 19, 2004  
First Named Inventor Darryl A. Bourgoyne  
Examiner Name Hoang C. Dang  
Group / Art Unit 3672

Total Amount of Payment \$ 856.00

Attorney Docket No. H055010.0035US1

## METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:  
Deposit Account No.: 16-2435  
Deposit Account Name:  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
☒ Charge any additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 & 1.17  
☐ Applicant claims small entity status.  
See 37 CFR 1.27

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed: ☒ Check  
☐ Money Order  
☐ Credit Card  
☐ Other

## FEE CALCULATION

### 1. Basic Filing Fee

| Large Fee Code | Large Entity Fee (\$) | Small Fee Code | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee Description        | Fee Paid  |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| 1001           | \$770                 | 2001           | \$385                 | Utility Filing Fee     | \$ 770.00 |
| 1002           | \$340                 | 2002           | \$170                 | Design Filing Fee      | \$        |
| 1003           | \$530                 | 2003           | \$265                 | Plant Filing Fee       | \$        |
| 1004           | \$770                 | 2004           | \$385                 | Reissue Filing Fee     | \$        |
| 1005           | \$160                 | 2005           | \$ 80                 | Provisional Filing Fee | \$        |
| Subtotal (1)   |                       |                |                       |                        | \$ 770.00 |

### 2. Extra Claim Fees

| Claims             | Extra         | Fee (below) | Fee Paid   |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Total              | 20 - 20** = 0 | x \$        | = \$       |
| Indep.             | 4 - 3** = 1   | x \$ 86     | = \$ 86.00 |
| Multiple Dependent |               |             | \$         |

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater.

For Reissues, see below

| Large Entity Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee Description   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| \$ 18                 | \$ 9                  | Claims in excess of 20                                    |
| \$ 86                 | \$ 43                 | Independent claims in excess of 3                         |
| \$ 290                | \$ 145                | Multiple dependent claim, if not paid                     |
| \$ 86                 | \$ 43                 | **Reissue independent claims over original patent         |
| \$ 18                 | \$ 9                  | **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent |
| Subtotal (2)          |                       | \$ 86.00  |

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

### 3. Additional Fees

| Large Fee Code | Large Entity | Small Fee Code | Small Entity | Fee Description  | Fee Paid |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--|----------|
| 1051           | \$ 130       | 2051           | \$ 65        | Surcharge - late fee or oath   | \$       |
| 1052           | \$ 50        | 2052           | \$ 25        | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet                     | \$       |
| 1812           | \$2,520      | 1812           | \$2,520      | Request for Reexamination  | \$       |
| 1804           | \$920*       | 1804           | \$920*       | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action                     | \$       |
| 1805           | \$1840*      | 1805           | \$1840*      | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action                        | \$       |
| 1251           | \$ 110       | 2251           | \$ 55        | Extension for reply within first month                                     | \$       |
| 1252           | \$ 420       | 2252           | \$ 210       | Extension for reply within second month                                    | \$       |
| 1253           | \$ 950       | 2253           | \$ 475       | Extension for reply within third month                                     | \$       |
| 1254           | \$1,480      | 2254           | \$ 740       | Extension for reply within fourth month                                    | \$       |
| 1255           | \$2,010      | 2255           | \$1,050      | Extension for reply within fifth month                                     | \$       |
| 1401           | \$ 330       | 2401           | \$ 165       | Notice of Appeal   | \$       |
| 1402           | \$ 330       | 2402           | \$ 165       | Filing a brief in support of an appeal                                     | \$       |
| 1403           | \$ 290       | 2403           | \$ 145       | Request for oral hearing   | \$       |
| 1452           | \$ 110       | 2452           | \$ 55        | Petition to revive - unavoidable   | \$       |
| 1453           | \$1,330      | 2453           | \$ 665       | Petition to revive - unintentional   | \$       |
| 1501           | \$1,330      | 2501           | \$ 665       | Utility issue fee (or reissue)   | \$       |
| 1502           | \$ 480       | 2502           | \$ 240       | Design issue fee   | \$       |
| 1503           | \$ 640       | 2503           | \$ 320       | Plant issue fee  | \$       |
| 1460           | \$ 130       | 1460           | \$ 130       | Petitions to the Commissioner  | \$       |
| 1807           | \$ 50        | 1807           | \$ 50        | Petitions related to provisional applications                              | \$       |
| 1806           | \$ 180       | 1806           | \$ 180       | Submission of Information Disclosure Statement                             | \$       |
| 8021           | \$ 40        | 8021           | \$ 40        | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | \$       |
| 1809           | \$ 770       | 2809           | \$ 385       | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))                | \$       |
| 1801           | \$ 770       | 2801           | \$ 385       | Request for Continued Examination (RCE)                                    | \$       |
| 1802           | \$ 900       | 1802           | \$ 900       | Request for expedited examination of a design application                  | \$       |

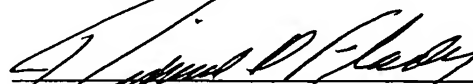
Other fee (specify): \$

Other fee (specify): \$

\* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

Subtotal (3) \$

Submitted by

  
Richard D. Fladung, Reg. No. 30,834

Date:

March 23, 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                             |   |                             |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| In re Applicant:            | § | Confirmation No.:           |
|                             | § |                             |
| DARRYL A. BOURGOYNE, et al. | § |                             |
|                             | § |                             |
| Filed: March 23, 2004       | § | Art Unit:                   |
|                             | § |                             |
| Serial No.: Unknown         | § | Examiner:                   |
|                             | § |                             |
| For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  | § | Docket No.: H055010.0035US1 |
| RETURN OF DRILLING FLUID    | § |                             |
| FROM A SEALED MARINE RISER  | § | Customer No.: 01200         |
| TO A FLOATING DRILLING RIG  | § |                             |
| WHILE DRILLING              | § |                             |

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

**Mail Stop Patent Application**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

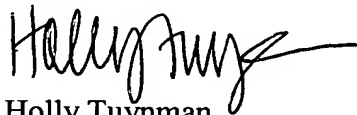
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that the following documents, which are attached, are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 with the United States Postal Service ("Express Mail Post Office to Addressee") service as Express Mail No. EV330686594US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

- (1) Utility Patent Application Transmittal;
- (2) Fee Transmittal Form (in duplicate);
- (3) Application Data Sheet (2 pages);
- (4) Application for Patent (Specification (16 pages; Drawings (11 sheets)));
- (5) Declaration (2 pages);
- (6) Power of Attorney by Assignee;
- (7) 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement;
- (8) Firm Check for \$856.00; and
- (9) Return Postcard

Respectfully submitted,



Holly Tuynman

Date: 3/23/2004  
AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP  
1900 Pennzoil Place, South Tower  
711 Louisiana St.  
Houston, Texas 77002  
(713) 220-5800  
(713) 236-0822 Fax